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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/660,603	09/12/2003	Masaaki Kaneko	10517/187	7641

23838 7590 06/23/2005

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WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER

DONOVAN, LINCOLN D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2832

DATE MAILED: 06/23/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/660,603

Applicant(s)

KANEKO ET AL.

Examiner

Lincoln Donovan

Art Unit

2832

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 April 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 09-12-03.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-3 and 7-8, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ida et al. [US 5,444,427] in view of Japan 5-109542 and Nishida et al. [US 6,496,090].

Regarding claims 1-3 and 8, Ida et al. '427 disclose a reactor unit [figure 1] comprising:

- a basket body [1] having an open face;
- a plurality of reactor bodies [2A-C] which are accommodated within the basket body;
- a lid body [3] which closes the open face of the basket body;
- a curable mold resin [column 3, lines 60-68] filling the basket body about the coils of the reactor bodies; and

- at least one partition [figure 1] located between the reactor bodies whose leading end extends from an inner face of at least one of the basket body and the lid body and abuts on an inner face of the of the other formed protrusively from the basket body and integrally therewith about the entire depth of and entire width thereof.

Ida et al. disclose everything claimed except the basket body being formed of metal and the lid body having vent holes.

Japan 5-109542, as acknowledged in applicant's specification, paragraph 4, discloses the use of a metal basket body and lid.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use metal to form the body and lid of Ida et al., as suggested by Japan 5-109542, for the purpose of dissipating unwanted heat.

Nishida et al. discloses the use of a lid [5] for a relay assembly having vent holes [70, figure 1].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the venting design of Nishida et al. for the lid of Ida et al., as modified, for the purpose of venting air during encapsulation.

Regarding claim 7, discloses the claimed invention except for a gap between the partition and reactor bodies.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have a gap between the partitions and reactor bodies in order to provide continuity to the resin encapsulation.

Claims 4-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ida et al., as modified, as applied to claim 3 above, and further in view of Ida et al. [US 5,109,209], (Ida et al. '209, hereinafter).

Ida et al., as modified, disclose everything claimed except an opening in the barriers in the vicinity of the inner face of the body and a notch for a temperature sensor.

Regarding claims 4-5, Ida et al. '209 discloses a reactor basket [figure 1] having a plurality of partitions [33] including an opening therein in the vicinity of the open face.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the opening design of Ida et al. '209 for the barriers of Ida et al., as modified, for the purpose of providing even resin flow.

Regarding claim 6, It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add an additional notch in the basket body of Ida et al., as modified, in order to accommodate the sensor probe.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-8 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lincoln Donovan whose telephone number is 571-272-1988. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-5.

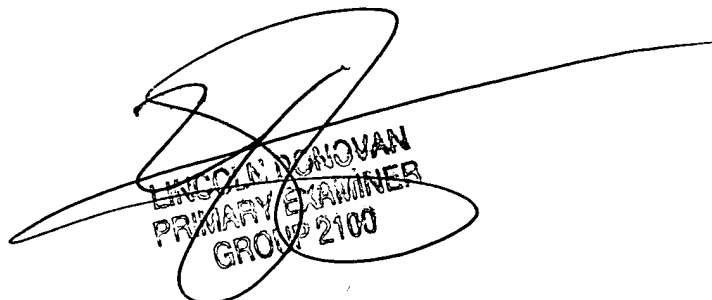
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Elvin Enad can be reached on 571-272-1990. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

ERIC J. DONOVAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 2100